

THE
AVASTAR
 Your World. Your Voice.

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LINDEN LAB CEO RESIGNS

KING PHIL IN QUIT SHOCK

• Philip Linden stuns the grid by standing down as Lab's CEO



By COYNE NAGY
 THE unexpected resignation of Philip Linden has caught residents across SL by surprise.

FULL STORY: SEE PAGE 3

INSIDE
OPINION

"To just tell her to start looking younger is cheap advice. Don't you think that it must have something to do with the way she manifests herself in SL? The way she communicates?"

YOUR MAIL
p.9

"MY, my my – we certainly poked a wasps' nest with a large pointy stick last week, didn't we? I'm talking, of course, about our story looking at the success of women in SL to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8."



LEIDER
STEPANOV
p.8

THE AVASTAR

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NUMBERS
OF THE WEEK

6

... short films were shown at an in-world festival hosted by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society this week.

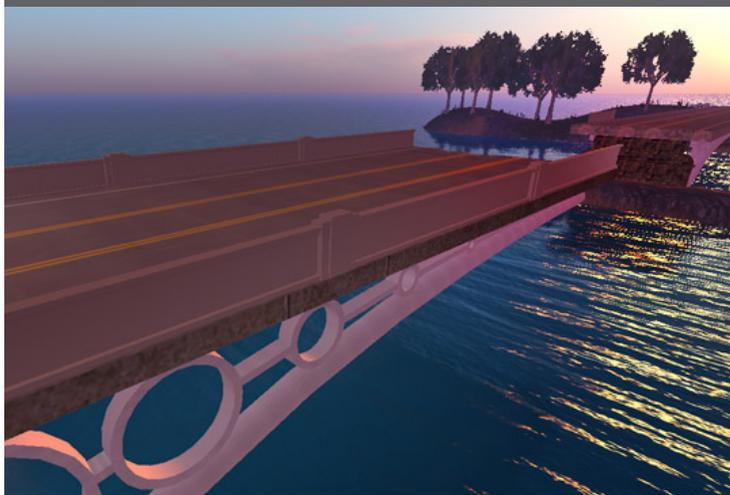
250

... in L\$ is the cost of renting a stall for a week at the SL Book Fair 2008, which begins on April 25.

15,000

... sunflowers have been planted at the Intel sim as part of the firm's fund raising efforts for RL animal charities.

BRIDGE OVER PRETTY WATER



A SYMBOLIC gap in the Bay City Bridge shows the work in progress of resident builders from the Linden Department of Public Works. Pic from the SL wiki.

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PHILIP: I'LL STAY
WITH SL FOR LIFE

LAB CHIEF RESIGNS CEO POSITION TO BECOME PRESIDENT

By COYNE NAGY & REGIS BRAATHENS

PHILIP Linden has stunned the grid by revealing he will stand down as CEO of the Lab.

The unexpected move by Second Life's founder and visionary, Philip Rosedale in RL, has caught the grid completely by surprise. But there is no chance of him leaving the company he created altogether, as he is set to take over as chairman of the Linden Lab board once his successor is found.

SURPRISE

Speaking to Reuters, Philip explained he would still remain dedicated to SL: "This is my life's work. I'm not going anywhere, and I'm still full-time on this, probably for the rest of my life."

But Philip's resignation is not a surprise according to Marissa Bergbahn of PR firm Bokowsky & Laymann, who says it is not uncommon for technology companies to change CEO after establishing themselves. "Jobs and responsibilities change significantly in the growth period of a company. The qualities demanded of an active CEO in the consolidation phase are mostly very different to those of the visionary founder."

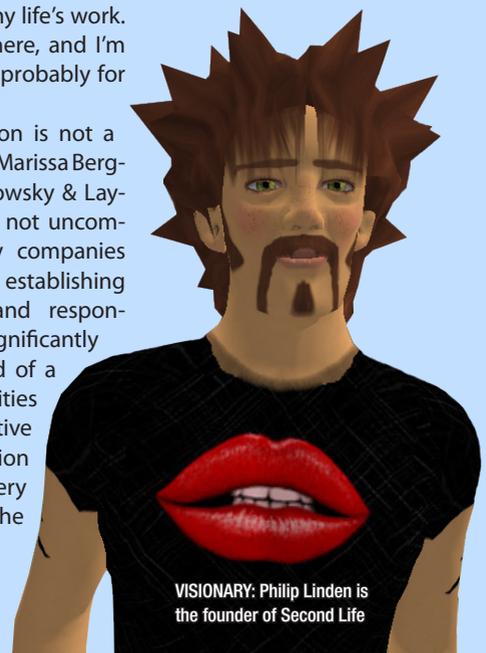
CHALLENGE

With SL suffering a backlash from RL me-

dia and business recently and with monthly registrations declining, the new boss faces a big challenge to turn things around.

CRISIS?

But Mitch Kapor rubbished suggestions that Philip paid the price for mounting problems and slowing growth this year. Kapor, the largest investor in the company and present chairman of the board, said: "It was not precipitated by a crisis. We had always anticipated that there would be a time when he'd decide he no longer wanted to be a CEO."



VISIONARY: Philip Linden is the founder of Second Life

HOW SL FEELS

THE AvaStar spoke to residents minutes after the news broke to see how they felt about Philip Linden stepping down as CEO of Linden Lab.

Daedalus Young, photographer, said: "It always seemed to me he was doing his work well. It was sort of like knowing it's safe to come in-world because Uncle Phil has his blessing on it. But I think it can be good to have fresh ideas."

Veteran blogger Rik Riel



BYE UNCLE PHIL: Daedalus is sad to see Philip go

said: "I think this is potentially healthy for the company. As a resident it makes me sad since I have a certain affinity for King Philip. But as a virtual world booster, I think this makes a lot of sense."

Silke Lilliehook, a model, also revealed she was amazed by the news: "The message shocked me really because his work was really excellent. It will be hard to find an adequate successor but I am sure the new one will take this chance to blow a fresh breeze through SL."

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Dresses MS Designs Looove! Skins

By COYNE NAGY

THE WEB ON THE GRID – AT LAST!



HTML IN SL: How you might read The AvaStar in the future

REJOICING IN-WORLD AS LAB INTRODUCES HTML ON PRIMS

THE web has arrived on the grid after years of campaigning by residents.

Linden Lab has included the ability to put HTML code on prims in its new release candidate which was launched last week, enabling residents to surf the web without having to leave SL and open up a separate browser.

There have been demands from residents for HTML in-world for several years, and the latest release is being seen by many as a major boost for SLers – although there are still plenty of features, such as Flash and clickable links, which are not yet supported on the grid.

But that hasn't stopped an enthusiastic response to the new technology from residents. Indeterminate Schism, a professional custom script writer, said: "It's the

single most significant change to SL that I've seen. It's much simpler, and free, to edit a webpage than upload a texture so it means ad-hoc text-on-a-prim, no more high-prim 'news' boards like CNN and Reuters."

BENEFITS

Prominent blogger Gwyneth Llewelyn has also welcomed the news, describing it as "amazing". Havok 4, a new physics engine, was also released and should improve sim performance and create dynamic linking between prims. Estate owner Elvis Orbit said: "I have been lucky to have been a part of the early adapter program and I see many benefits of Havok 4. One of course is the stability it offers to sims, and second is that it will now be much easier to update the physics system of SL and add other features."

NEW AP SCARE

THE man behind a new independent open source SL grid has refused to deny accusations it could turn into a haven for sexual age players.

Gareth Ellison, CEO of Litesim, repeatedly declined to confirm to The AvaStar this week that age play would be banned from the new grid. He said: "I will not speak to that other than say that what others do or don't do is not my concern so long as it is not abusive or illegal."

CONCERNED

The controversy flared after Reuters reported that Lalinda Lovell, owner of the notorious Wonderland sim which was the target of an age play investigation last year, is promoting Litesim, which is scheduled to launch within months.

Images of child avatar pornography are illegal in both Canada and Germany but Ellison claims that because she is concerned with UK and US law she is not under obligation to prevent sexual age play in her grid.

When contacted by The AvaStar this week, Lovell claimed her words would have no impact on SL residents: "Not once it goes through the media spew machine that only cares about making money, and nothing about credibility and truth."



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TOP O' THE MORNIN' TO YE:
JoanyB Odriscoll at Nancy's Pub

GETTING READY FOR ST. PADDY'S DAY

By BABU WRITER

RESIDENTS AND BAR OWNERS GEAR UP FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

FORGET St. Patrick's Day - SL is gearing up for a whole St. Patrick's Week as the grid turns green.

Residents are donning green garb and heading for the pub to down a pint of Guinness to celebrate the holiday synonymous with everything Irish.

And there is plenty to do for SLers who want to party in style. The West of Ireland sim is raising money for the Project Children charity, which helps kids



DOWN THE PUB: Blarney Stone patrons Dave93 Nieuport and Vanderbeck Kangjon

from Northern Ireland. It will be holding events throughout the week including poetry readings and an Irish genealogy workshop. Check out Nancy's Pub, where volunteers will be on hand to teach you to dance, and you can donate on-site.

LEPRECHAUNS

One of the busiest place on the grid on St. Patrick's Day itself will be the Dublin sim, where Tourism Ireland will be holding a warm-up traditional parade on March 16. The renowned Blarney Stone Irish Bar, where you can pick up pint of the 'black stuff', is sure to be busy.

To spice up your own party, head to Goldie and Bear St. Patrick's Dream Shop where you can find dancing holographic

leprechauns, celtic crosses, hats, rainbows and even a shamrock carousel with poofer.



SAINT PATRICK: Inside Cork cathedral



BAGPIPER: SeamusJohn plays a merry tune

Finally, stop in at Lilly's Irish Pub Club to celebrate with live DJs throughout the week.



LEIDER STEPANOV

DON'T WORRY, WOMEN DO RULE SL!

CONTROVERSY OVER REMARKS IN LAST WEEK'S STORY DOESN'T OVERSHADOW WOMEN'S DAY

MY, my my – we certainly poked a wasps' nest with a large pointy stick last week, didn't we?

I'm talking, of course, about our story looking at the success of women in SL to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8.

POWER

We spoke to several women about the subject, and generally concluded that SL was a great example of sexual equality. Hence the headline – 'You're SL's hearts!' We even provided ten examples of how women have risen to the top of different fields in SL.

But it seems a lot of readers were unhappy with comments made by Rola Hykova, lead singer of the in-world UKDProject band. She said: "I think a man is better in a powerful position like boss of a company or in politics. I think a great woman knows how to stand behind her man and raise him up when needed."

Now don't misunderstand me here – I disagree with Hykova, and frankly I wonder where her opinions really come from. But it made an interesting counter-balance to the other quotes, which all, quite rightly in my opinion, praised the achievements of women in SL.

SUPPORT

There was a lot of activity on the blog of Codebastard Redgrave, one of the successful SL women we highlighted. She wrote: "She [Rola] didn't just say what I think she did, did she? Am I stuck in the 70s or is she stuck in the 40s?"

Plenty of agreement came from those who commented underneath the entry, with another famous SLer, fellow blogger Gwyneth Llewelyn, saying: "[Hykova's quotes] come from someone who is commenting upon 'her fellow ladies'; somehow, that shocked me even more than if it had

come from a guy." When I tracked Rola down this week, she wasn't in any mood to reconsider her opinions, and she told me: "To be in a powerful position you must be strong and, I think, more like a man. In my opinion, men do not like a powerful woman because she can't be the woman that she should be in the house. She should take care of the man in a

woman's way and the man should take care of the woman in the man's way."

Wow. But she added an important point: "That's only my opinion, I never say others should agree."

• **Breaking news** – Philip Linden has quit as Lab CEO! I think it's a wise move – he will still be involved with SL, but now someone with much more experience can take the Lab forward.



CONTROVERSY: Rola Hykova, above, and Codebastard Redgrave, left

your mail @

YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

FREE TO LOVE WHOEVER YOU LIKE

Hi Randi,

I TOTALLY don't understand your reaction to your 'Star Letter' writer [see Dear Randi issue 63].

If she wants her av to be looking like her 55-year-old puppeteer, and goes through all the effort of doing that, then that is totally admirable (and yes it is much more work than buying a ready made shape).

To just tell her to start looking younger, is,

imho, cheap advice. Don't you think that it must have something to do with the way she manifests herself in SL? The way she communicates? Maybe she just says the wrong things, maybe she is just shy? Maybe she's not prepared to go as far sensually as most avs?

FREEDOM

I am a 61-year-old male, and have made my avatar to be realistic, although I wished I had

more of my puppeteer's wrinkles. I have not flattered myself, I am short and stocky, have a big nose and a receding chin. People like my av. I have a flourishing love life in SL. My lovers range from 18 to 50 and I find this 'freedom of age' one of the great marvels of SL. My experience is so 180 degrees different then your letter writer's, and if she writes to you about it, it must really be a very

big issue for her. I don't want to impose myself, and I also do not pretend to have any answers, I'm not looking for cheap sex, but I'm very outspoken and if the lady would like to talk with me, she's welcome, and if that helps her in any way, I'd be very happy. I must acknowledge you gave her the good advice in the end to become member of the appropriate groups. **By Y. W.**

ADVERT



META-NEWS!

THE AVASTAR KEEPS YOU UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE METAVERSE

VIRTUAL STRATEGY

STRATEGY Analytics has released a report on why virtual worlds have become so successful. The firm's president Harvey Cohen said companies were using the new medium to gain "loyalty, stickiness and effectiveness".

GAIA CASH ADS UP

GAIA Online is predicting a vast increase in revenue in the coming months. Joe Hyrkin, a Gaia vice president, revealed recently that the firm has struck new advertising deals for around US\$1m, ten times as much as before.

KANEVA JOINS 1M CLUB

By LEIDER STEPANOV

KANEVA has welcomed its one millionth resident as it cements its place among the leading virtual worlds.

The landmark sign-up was reached just after 9am SLT on March 14. Kaneva, founded by Christopher Klaus and Greg Frame in 2004, is a 3D social network with its own economy, and has been steadily growing in stature since it was released into beta in the middle of 2006.

The lucky newcomer will receive a pack of goodies from Kaneva to mark the occasion, and will join an increasing number of residents who

can use the standard 2D social network tools like profiles and messaging before heading in-world to chat to other avatars.

A spokesman for Kaneva said the company was delighted that the one million landmark had been achieved, and said it was a sign of the world's growing popularity.



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SL'S MOBILE REVOLUTION

VOLLEE JOINS APPLE IN OFFERING SL CLIENT *By PERCIVAL KRONFELD*

The future of SL is mobile according to companies providing solutions for residents to roam the grid via their phone.

Following the recent hype surrounding the launch of a SL client on the iPhone, RL firm Vollee has created software which will allow residents who can't fork out the hefty price for the Apple product, to run SL on their existing mobile handset. The ability to use SL on the move and wherever you are will totally change the way residents experience the world, says the company's CEO Martin Dunsby. He said: "This is a true 'before and after moment' in which mobile is living up to its potential in serving as a connected platform."

ACCESSIBILITY

The announcement has attracted excitement from many SLers and even praise from Linden Lab itself. "This represents an intuitive way to extend the reach and accessibility of the Second Life Grid platform," said Chris Mahoney, business development manager at the Lab. "This is a great way for SL residents to stay connected to their friends, business and experiences in-world, wherever they are."

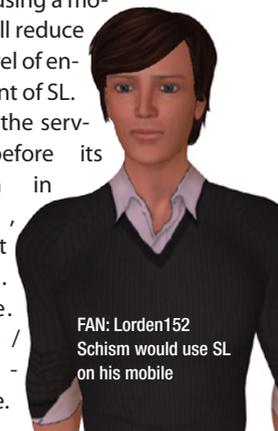
The project has seen the SL platform reformatted to fit on a mobile phone screen while mapping the

keys on handsets to commands in-world. Residents can simply log in, and those new to SL can even sign-up via their handset. While not all handsets will support the software, most relatively new internet-enabled phones will.

Lorden152 Schism is keen to have SL on his mobile. He said: "I think access to SL via mobiles is a good thing. For example, as I get my IMs sent to my email address, if someone IMed me and I was away on business or something, I would use my mobile to contact them."

Some residents are already questioning, however, if the full experience of SL can really be enjoyed on a tiny screen. With the grid playing host to many detailed and visually-stunning sims, sceptics claim using a mobile will reduce the level of enjoyment of SL.

To try the service before its launch in May, visit www.vollee.com/slondlife.



SAFE MONEY

By COYNE NAGY

LINDEN Lab has published a list of approved currency exchanges for residents wanting to buy L\$.

It is against the terms of service to purchase them from unapproved sources, but the Lab had previously refused to list the locations of verified outlets. That in turn forced many residents to use the official Lindex in order to remain safe and ensure they would not lose their money. The three exchanges listed by the Lab so far are the Dutch Exchange, Anshe Chung's Dreamland and ELDEX.

LAUNCH OF SL AUCTION SITE

By COYNE NAGY

AVATARS can now hunt for bargains at the new in-world auction site gBay.

The project, based at the Givenchi sim, will also enable residents to make some money while clearing out old items they no longer want.

The technology used by gBay prevents items being sold when the owner does not have permission to do so. The system also acts as a conduit to transfer items and money so residents never have to worry about chasing payment or not receiving purchases.

GUESS WHO JUST BLEW INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD?



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a-stars



A-STARs gossip with Isabel Brocco, Babu Writer and Kitty Otoole

COSTA RICA BLACK TIE BASH



IN THE MIX:
DJ Kromus

BEAUTY: LeeZu Baxter shows off her moves and curves on the dancefloor

ROCK YOUR BODY:
Guests go wild

AVS flocked to the beautiful sandy beaches of the Guanacaste Norte sim for the Black Tie Affair party on March 8. The sim, which also features a replica of Costa Rica airport and breathtaking blue wa-

ters, hosted DJs Azu and Kromus as they rocked the house with their DJing session. There were also prizes on offer to keep the crowds on their toes. DJ Kromus, aka Kromus Korobase, said the party was a great success: "I never expected to pack the sim to capacity for over two hours and average 65 people the entire party."

BY ISABEL BROCCO

By PAOLO BADE

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



HarMonica Aabye is wearing Bewitched - Shelagh dress L\$400, Country Irish Super Spikes shoes L\$300 by Wiccan Sojourner, Bewitched Designs, SpiritWood (172, 82, 26) and Celtic Trinity Jewelry Set L\$590 by JD Hansen, JCNY Collection, Jewelry & Couture, Farrah Island (196, 64, 25).

In the bubble photo she's wearing St. Patis Hat L\$100, Clover Pasties L\$50 by Akasha Wachmann, Hysteria - Home of Virus Co. And CatniP, Hysteria (15, 44, 22), St Patrick's Day Bikini & Trunks L\$0 by Wiccan Sojourner, Bewitched Designs, SpiritWood (172, 82, 26) and Celtic Trinity Jewelry Set L\$590 by

JD Hansen, JCNY Collection, Jewelry & Couture, Farrah Island (196, 64, 25).

Paolo Bade is wearing Waistcoat Ensemble L\$400, Men's Black Cutaway Jacke \$L300 by Eladrienne Laval, E.Laval Haberdasher Fine gentlemen's clothing, Caledon Mayfair (183, 163, 23).

In the bubble photo he's wearing Ulster Undies L\$175 by Wiccan Sojourner, Bewitched Designs, SpiritWood (172, 82, 26).

Special thanks to Brigid Yoshikawa and The Wolves Den Celtic Pub, Brythony (40, 123, 41) for the location.

Callie Cline's

STYLE HOTLINE



SPEND AT CHARITY FASHION FAIR

WEEKEND FAIR ACROSS FOUR SIMS SET TO BE HIT AMONG FASHIONISTAS AND FUN SEEKERS!

BREAK out your virtual savings and head for one of the largest clothing fairs ever to be held in SL, taking place this weekend.

And it's more than just a chance to lay your hands on the latest virtual look - it's the start of this year's Relay for Life campaign, which raises money for the RL American Cancer Society charity. It is a fantastic cause, and I am proud to be part of the effort to make a dif-

ference for those who suffer from the disease, or who have lost loved ones to it.

SEASONAL

In the photo this week, my SL sister, partner, best friend and designer, Kiana Dulce, and I are wearing dresses we made especially for the RFL event, and all proceeds from them will go directly to the charity. The fair starts tomorrow across four sims with a seasonal theme, and features

designers ranging from unknowns to big names. Be sure to stop by the fair this week (my shop in on the Spring sim), and enjoy the entertainment, fashion shows, treasure hunts, and a LOT of other fun things - all for a good cause!



SWEET & CUTE: Callie and Kiana in their RFL outfits

MAKE PADDY PROUD!



By TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN



Irish Flag Tophat
By AliciaKay Kilara
Cork (46, 165, 28)

L\$50



Divivny Lucky Pot of Gold
By Vivianne OFlynn
Where: Minna (32, 133, 29)

L\$159

Leprechaun Fully dressed
By Omega Naumova
Where: Colombia (76, 92, 26)

L\$150



OFlynn's Irish Coffee Scripted for sipping
By: Vivianne OFlynn
Minna (17, 110, 29)

L\$13



Sprig 'O Clover
By JohnnyD Posthorn
West of Ireland (192, 135, 26)

L\$100



Guinness Dispenser Barrel
By Wallace McAllister
West of Ireland (207, 145, 26)

L\$50



For advice write to
Randi Barracuda at:
dearrandi@the-avastar.com

DEAR

MY SL LOVER IS REALLY MY RL STEPMOTHER!



DILEMMA OVER TAKING THE BIZARRE RELATIONSHIP INTO RL

Dear Randi: I HAVE rather a strange family in RL. I used to have an -stepmother, who at 34 isn't much older than me. A few months ago, my father admitted he was gay, so she filed for divorce after three years of marriage. She moved back to her home town, and at my suggestion, joined up to SL to help her get over it. I was really sym-

pathetic towards her, and one thing led another and pretty soon, we were dating in SL. She wants to be my SL wife, and is very sweet and has a sexy avatar. Should I keep the relationship up, and maybe even take it into RL? — B.I.

Randi says: You should tread very carefully on this one. You wouldn't be breaking any

laws, but you would certainly be spitting in the face of a lot of cultural norms. If she really turns out to be the love of your life, at least you could start a new life in a new town. But before you even think about moving the relationship into RL, make sure she is also interested — and maybe it would be best to run it past your dad as well.

TWIN SISTER BLAMED OVER CHEATING LOVER

Dear Randi: MY RL twin sister has been with a guy in SL for over a year. Although they have no marriage plans, everyone knows they're a couple. The formal grand opening of his new SL club took place recently, an event that had been planned for months. My sister learned the day before that she couldn't attend because of the funeral of an RL co-worker, so she asked if I would accompany him. But while we were there, I saw him proposition another woman and he ended up taking her to bed. My sister somehow blames me and won't speak to me. What should I do? — C.D.

Randi says: Refusing to speak is pretty ridiculous among family members, but unfortunately that's the way she wants to behave. Unless there is something you aren't telling me, you can't be held responsible for her man's escapades. Explain it to her again and tell her you don't want to fight about it. After that, the ball is in her court.

FORGET HIDDEN DESIRE AND STAY WITH HUBBY

Dear Randi: I used to work in a restaurant in SL for a really nice guy. He was married then, but I fell in love with him and told him so. He said I was a good person, but he believes marriage is permanent even in SL. Two months ago I married someone else, but I've never had the feelings for him that I had for my former boss. Now I have learned that the wife of my former boss has left him. I still feel tingly all over when I think about him, but I don't want to hurt my husband. Who should I pick? — W.S.

Randi says: If your former boss is as great a guy as you say, and if he really feels that marriage is for life, you won't have any choice in the matter. If he were to get involved with you now, he would be a hypocrite, you would be an adulteress, and a nice man who did nothing wrong would get hurt. If you really love your current husband, forget the other guy and keep your marriage vows.

RANDI

The Virtual World's
No 1 Agony Aunt

MY LESBIAN LOVER IS A MAN!

Dear Randi: I LOVE being in SL. It's a fantastic place to be for someone who, like me, is bisexual. Around Christmas, I met this amazing woman, and it wasn't long before I proposed to her, and we had a beautiful wedding on Valentine's Day. When I told her last week that I want to meet her in

RL, she said it would be a problem because 'she' is a man who has been posing as a woman in SL. She said that since I was bisexual, she didn't think it would be so bad if I found out. I'm not hurt so much as confused. What now? — T.R.

Randi says: Your wife did deceive you, but it sounds as if she

is really in love with you. Since you have had sex with men in the past, you shouldn't be repulsed. But she did tell you a white lie. The two of you need to be honest with each other. There are several possibilities available, and the two of you should think seriously about the best course of action.

RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK SUGAR DADDY'S DILEMMA WEEK TWO:



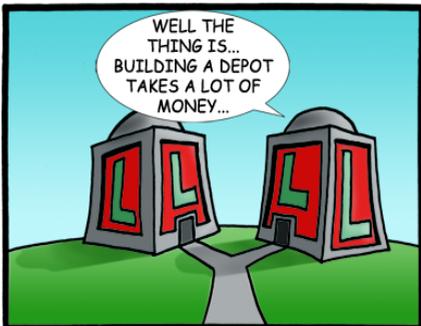
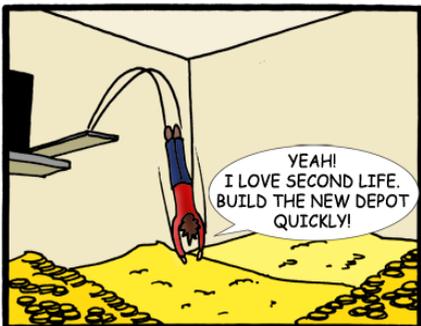
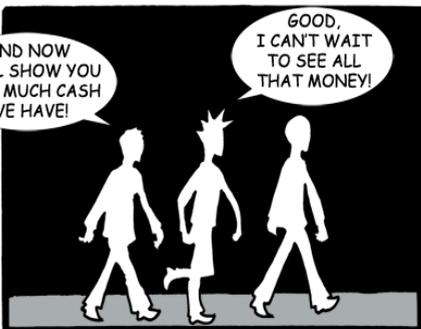
Pics by Skycat Ranger
Models: Jay Prospero, Skycat Ranger

to be continued...

Slaggin'

ARTWORK:
Ermanno Spitteler
Regis Braathens

"DONALD BUCK"



© Andrea Manfredini 2008



Freebies

SL's best FREE stuff!

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

THIS WEEK: TREASURE HUNT

ARE you bored of looking into huge anonymous boxes in freebies shops?

In that case, you should check out the SL Treasure Hunt. It's a real treasure hunt which is organised by Rhea Newall and her management team, and has

shops or unknown malls, and new friends as well. The starting point is at Bunyip (113, 55, 446), where you pick up your first clue.

MYSTERY

been so successful that it is held twice a month.

Tip – it can be extremely useful to join a group. The



ARRRGH: The spot marks the treasure

hunt's channel has more than 2,500 members, who are willing to help people stuck with a dastardly riddle. The notecard you receive has a landmark and some mysterious words, alluding to the whereabouts of the first prize. It is a



new places, hidden

little box, usually well-hidden, which contains your surprise and a second card containing the next clue. A hunt has around 30 stops and at the finish, there is an amusement area where parties are organized and even more goodies are on offer.

ADVERT

Pro's & Beginners

Caramel Princess Links 1st Annual Golf Tournament

March 22, 2008, (7am-11am)

100L entry fee

Come join the Caramel Dolls!!!

Lindens, door prizes and giveaways for the winners

Spaces for Sponsorship still available
Red Box (229,42,23)

Caramel Princess Links



THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: NEW YORK

TAXI!
The NYC sim



By GAETANA FAUST

THE BIG APPLE

ENJOY THE CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS WITHOUT GOING OUTSIDE

NEW York, New York – the city which is so much fun, they named it twice.

That goes for SL, too, with many of the Big Apple's best sights and sounds recreated in-world.

An amazing representation of **Central Park** in Manhattan can be found at Voices Island (179, 218, 22). Skyscrapers surround a peaceful urban oasis of grass, trees, ponds and water fountains. Stroll around hip, trendy **Greenwich Village** at The Endless (46, 158, 28) and hit some of the cool shops, cafes, and galleries. **Washington Square's** distinctive arch dominates the Big Apple sim (127, 127, 41). Kick back and enjoy the trees or visit the shops to check out clothing, furniture, and art.

The NYC sim (79, 159, 23) is a work in progress, but it promises to be a detailed and realistic view of life in the Big Apple. There are lofty cafes and peaceful greens punctuated by landmarks such as the **NYC Modern Art Museum**. At **New New York** (40, 227, 13), you can find the quintessential Big Apple experience of a subway station. Head up to street level and you will find yourself amid the bright lights of **Times Square**.

Visit the ghostly reminder of the **World Trade Center** at Celestial Requiem NYC (121,139,21). A shadowy pair of Twin Towers dominate the landscape. In the footprint of each tower, stone tablets display the names of those who lost their lives in the 9/11 attacks.

A FRENCH LADY
STATUE OF LIBERTY



Catch a glimpse of New York's first lady up close, and pick up a free 'I love New York' t-shirt.

Where: Statue of Liberty (128, 112, 21)

CHIC AND BLING
FIFTH AVENUE



Hit the upscale shopping street for plenty of 'chichi' boutiques to mark you out from the crowd.

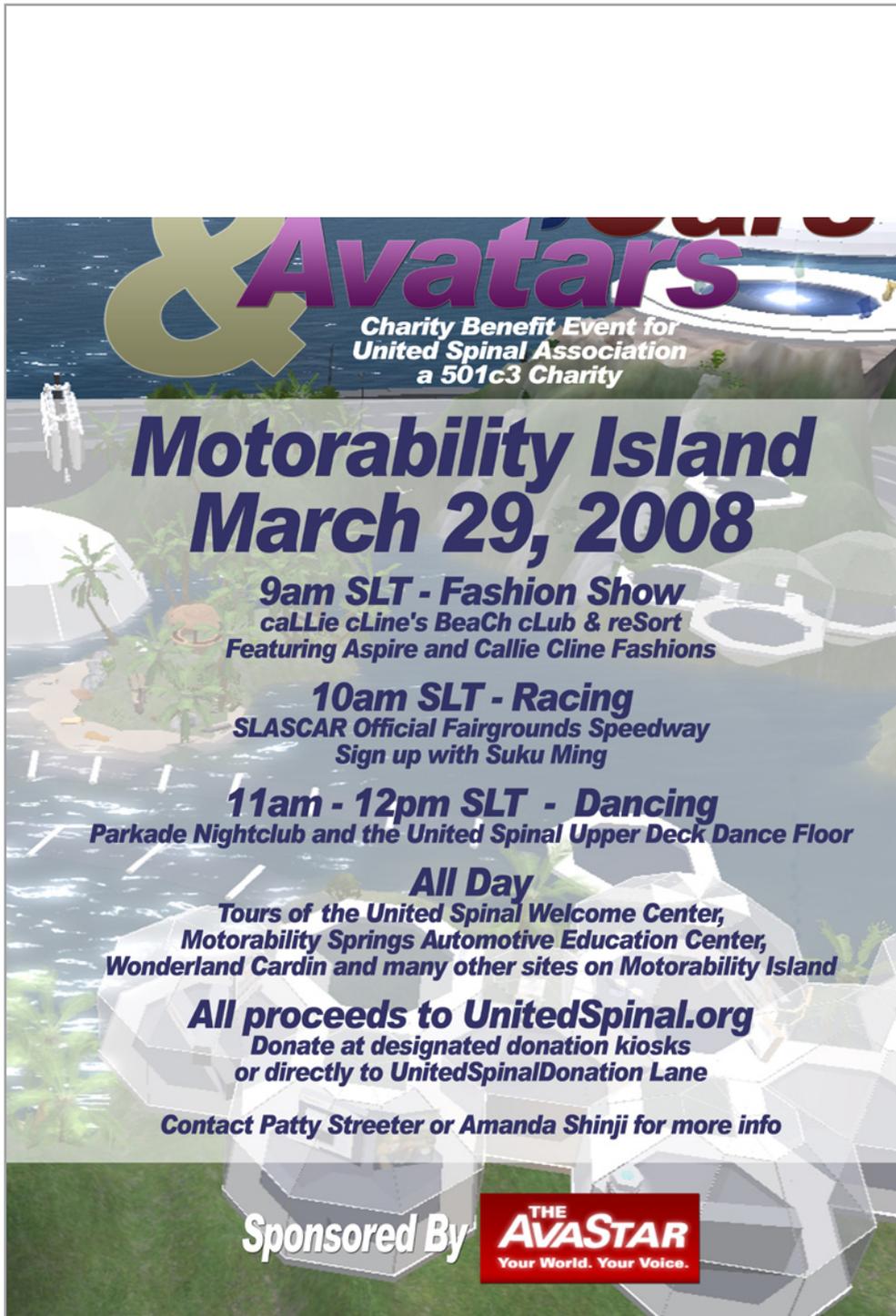
Where: Masterpiece Island (208, 201, 29)

PARTY NY-STYLE
CBGB PUNK CLUB



Dance away at the super-cool venue situated on a gritty Brooklyn street.

Where: Gateaux Boulevard (154, 226, 27)



& Avatars
Charity Benefit Event for
United Spinal Association
a 501c3 Charity

Motorability Island March 29, 2008

9am SLT - Fashion Show
caLLie cLine's BeaCh cLub & reSort
Featuring Aspire and Callie Cline Fashions

10am SLT - Racing
SLASCAR Official Fairgrounds Speedway
Sign up with Suku Ming

11am - 12pm SLT - Dancing
Parkade Nightclub and the United Spinal Upper Deck Dance Floor

All Day
Tours of the United Spinal Welcome Center,
Motorability Springs Automotive Education Center,
Wonderland Cardin and many other sites on Motorability Island

All proceeds to UnitedSpinal.org
Donate at designated donation kiosks
or directly to UnitedSpinalDonation Lane

Contact Patty Streeeter or Amanda Shinji for more info

Sponsored By **THE AVASTAR**
Your World. Your Voice.

3.14. - 3.20.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK!

All times are given in SL Time



OPENING

METAVERSAL ARTS

Antiques and musical instruments are among the items on offer at the launch of the new shop, while minstrel Atheene Dodonpa will perform medieval music.

When: Mar. 15, 13:00-16:00

Where: Cherish (175, 178, 60)



FUND-RAISER

SPORT RELIEF

Try a wide range of challenges and mile activities as part of Sport Relief, a British charity event which is taking place in SL for the first time.

When: Mar. 14-16

Where: WeAreHere 4 (182, 92, 40)



LIVE MUSIC

BENITO FLORES

The popular performer returns to SL with a live classical concert featuring the work of Chopin and Rossini.

When: Mar. 16, 12:00

Where: Sea Turtle Island (59, 27, 21)



ART & CULTURE

LUCKY BERESFORD

Discuss SL's art scene with the owner at the opening of a new photography annex

When: Mar. 17, 17:00

Where: (241, 125, 102)



ART & CULTURE

COSTA RICA ART FESTIVAL

Join some of SL's best artist and designers for the festival.

When: Mar. 15, 13:00-16:00

Where: Laguna Arenal (159, 247, 23)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

24 HOUR BENEFIT CONCERT

The concert, in aid of the Cancer Research UK charity, features stars including Lyn Carlberg, Thumper Boucher, Djai Skjellerup and Nikita Lumet.

When: From Mar. 15, 08:00

Where: Iladil (35, 140, 70)

THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK

By ISOLDE FLAMAND

TAYZIA ABATTOIR

*TAYZIA IS THE OWNER OF THE CRESCENT MOON,
THE OLDEST MUSEUM ON THE GRID.*

INTERVIEW

The AvaStar: What do you do in SL?

Tayzia Abattoir: I enjoy the arts and creativity and love to provide a place for artists to exhibit their works of art.

AS: How do you spend your time in SL?

TA: I love to spend time exploring the grid, meeting new people, and spending time with friends. I own the oldest museum in SL, as well as curating the Aho museum on the NMC campus.

AS: What would you change about SL?

TA: Weekend grid stability – it is always worse on the weekends.

AS: What's the funniest thing that has happened to you in SL?

TA: I once told someone in chat, in a group setting, that I groom dogs for a living. I own a grooming biz in RL and meant to type dogs!

AS: If SL had a president, who would you vote for?

TA: Philip of course.

AS: What's the biggest change you've seen during your time in SL?

TA: The way people utilize SL as an educational platform, and also big corporations coming in-world. The creativity level has improved tremendously as well.

AVA - ID CARD

NAME: TAYZIA ABATTOIR

BIRTH DATE: 30/5/04

PROFESSION: Museum owner

ATTITUDE: Creative